

Instruksi:

1. Buatlah resume, intisari (1-2 paragraf) dari artikel berikut
2. Temukan 5 kata atau istilah yang sulit dipahami
3. Apa sebenarnya tujuan utama yang ingin disampaikan penulis melalui tulisan ini?

Shining light on tech-friendly teachers

Author: Keshie Hernitaningtyas (Jakarta Post)

Throughout your education, you probably had one or two (or more, if you're lucky) teachers whom you remember fondly and whose approach to teaching stays with you. These educators are usually more than willing to go out of their way to make sure you understand the lessons being taught in the classroom, the ones who tirelessly encourage and motivate you to do and be better, and those who inspire you to do the things you never thought you could.

Recently, close to 400 of these teachers and school leaders from 91 countries gathered at the annual Microsoft Education Exchange (E2) in Singapore, including six who hail from different regions in Indonesia, namely Ari Sumarsono from vocational school SMK YAPPI Wonosari, Gunungkidul, Yogyakarta; Mansur from state junior high school SMPN 2 Pangsid, Sindenreng Rappang regency, South Sulawesi; Upi Fitriani from boarding school Insan Cendekia Madani School in South Tangerang; Tri Haryanto from Islamic boarding school Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Ibnu Abbas Assalafi Sragen, Central Java; Raden Roro Martiningsih from private junior high school SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Surabaya, East Java and Suherman from state high school SMAN 5 Sarolangun, Jambi.

Held on March 13-15, the annual event invited the educators to exchange ideas to develop innovative experiences in classrooms and explore emerging trends in education. It also recognized and celebrated teachers who joined its Microsoft Educator Community and excelled above others in terms of "combining content, pedagogy and technology in exemplary ways to prepare students for success in the digital age" -- also known as Microsoft Innovative Educator Experts (MIEE).

"Hundreds of years ago, up until 10 years ago, teachers taught in very much the same way with the same materials and those materials were often limited. Meanwhile, we know that the world is changing. Jobs that are in demand not only create opportunities for a country to grow their education and economic connections, but the skills that are required by employers such as Microsoft requires educators to embrace new ways of teaching and models of assessment to

drive and motivate students to build their skills,” said Microsoft Worldwide Education vice president Anthony Salcito on the sidelines of E2 on Thursday.

"Sometimes, teachers feel like this technology dynamic is going to reduce and minimize their impact, even displace their role and need as a teacher. But globally, the rise of technology and the digital revolution has created a much more profound need for teachers, and more specifically innovative teaching methodology. The role of educators has become far more valued and important because of the diversity of methodology they can use to teach has changed dramatically in recent years."

Among the education tools introduced to the teachers are PowerPoint as a digital blackboard that boasts translation, machine learning and video editing features, as well as the capability to present 3D objects; Excel as a grade book and OneNote as an interactive learning tool where it serves as a typed or handwriting notebook where you can also attach photos, video, audio or anything else and connect it with Office 365. Some of these collaboration tools can be accessed offline and only need to be synchronized from time to time.

Hundreds of thousands of schools are said to have been reached by the tech company, from the east to the west. “We target all schools that want to change [their ways of teaching]. Innovation can be found anywhere; it doesn’t necessarily have to be those who live in big cities with easy access to the internet. Those who live in remote areas and lack connectivity are usually more creative,” said Obert, who was a teacher himself before joining the company.

“There’s one teacher who creatively used OneNote to teach English, as it comes with a learning tool that spells word per word,” said Benny.

One teacher who lives in Magelang even had the initiative to conduct online learning at Borobudur Temple via Skype using a mobile phone, which was joined by schools from other regions. “The security guards chased after him because they were alarmed by his actions,” Obert said, laughing.

Indonesia indeed faces many challenges in regards to providing good education, as it is home to 250,000 schools, from kindergarten to high school, state and private, and has more than 3 million teachers and 50 million students.

Despite the many challenges in Indonesia's education sector, language teacher Tri Haryanto from MA Ibnu Abbas Assalafi Sragen, Central Java, is very optimistic.

"We are perhaps very late in the game in terms of implementation [of technology at schools], but creativity-wise, we can still compete [with more developed countries]. Although we're currently unable to use the technology, we can start implementing its way of thinking and method; to teach students how to think critically when solving problems through collaboration and communication," said Tri.